

## Washington State Employment Security

Sylvia P. Mundy, Commissioner

## For Immediate Release

www.wa.gov/esd

September 3, 2002

Contacts: Kristin Alexander, (360) 902-9307, pager: (360) 455-6301 Michael Wilson, (360) 902-9317, cell: (360) 561-4252

## **Employment Security Works to Help Consolidated Freightways Employees**

The Washington State Employment Security Department is working to help employees who could be affected by Consolidated Freightways Corporation's announcement that it plans to discontinue operations.

"All of us can see the gravity of this situation for the company, community and workers," said Employment Security Commissioner Sylvia P. Mundy. "We are currently looking at what assistance we can provide and we will do everything we can to help these workers."

Consolidated Freightways, with headquarters in Vancouver, Wash., announced Monday that it plans to file for bankruptcy and immediately shut down operations. Approximately 15,500 employees will be impacted by the CFC shutdown, according to a company press release. Of these, more than 80 percent will receive termination notices immediately.

Representatives from Employment Security's Rapid Response Unit and the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council have scheduled a meeting Wednesday with Consolidated Freightways officials and one of two unions representing company employees. The purpose of the meeting is to develop a strategy to assist workers and the company during this transition. Services might include job placement assistance and informational workshops about unemployment benefits.

#####